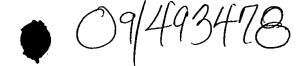
-27-



5

10



ABSTRACT

A loading apparatus for a vehicle, the apparatus having a first frame; a second frame having a chain mounted thereupon; and a locking system that is mounted on the first frame. The locking system has a drive wheel, a first arm member and a second arm member. The system is configured such that in a generally closed position, the chain engages the drive wheel in a first position, the drive wheel is connected to the arms; the arms are urged into the closed position. In a generally open position, the chain engages the drive wheel in a second position and the arms are urged into the open position by the second frame.